Western Notation

MIDI

Spectrograph

Amplitude

The Beauty of Structure and the Structure of Beauty: Mozart's "Facile Sonata" (No. 16, K.V. 545)

This diagram brings together four different visualizations of Mozart's classic piece. On the top line is the score in standard Western notation. The second line presents a MIDI realization with the treble and bass each colored differently. The third line presents a spectrogram view, vividly depicting harmonic overtones. The bottom line presents an amplitude view. The top line was created using Sibelius 4, the MIDI by the Music Animation Machine, and the bottom two lines using Audacity version 1.3.2. The score was typset from public domain source. The whole diagram was created using Adobe InDesign.

New understandings of Mozart's music can emerge from comparing and contrasting what each view has to offer, particularly as it allows one to see the whole piece at once.

Visualization created by Matthew D. Thibeault
Draft of July 15, 2007
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